

# High Schools That Work/Making Middle Grades Work November 2006 Newsletter

## **Introduction**

Hopefully your Fall is starting to slow down! It seems that this year more than most, we've all been "on the run." I think that we now have many new programs up and running – USA Today, Senior Projects, new High Schools That Work sites, Internships, and the Teachers as Advisor pilot program. In addition, many of you attended a two-day data workshop where you analyzed test results for your school. I'm in the process of putting information from these meetings on the HSTW website, so check there often. Here's the website link:

<http://doe.sd.gov/octe/highschools/index.asp>

Here's my contact information. Give me a call or email me if there's any information you need. Cell phone: 280-0650. Email: [mkucker@edec.org](mailto:mkucker@edec.org)

## **Upcoming Events**

<b>Senior Project Workshop</b>	<b>November 8</b>	<b>Mitchell</b>
<b>HSTW/MMGW Network Meeting</b>	<b>November 16</b>	<b>DDN</b>
<b>Senior Project Workshop</b>	<b>November 15</b>	<b>Rapid City</b>

An agenda will be coming to you soon for the November 16 meeting. We have connected all HSTW/MMGW schools for this meeting.

Email me if you have a team interested in attending the Senior Project workshops. Promotional mailings have been sent earlier, however there's still time to enroll.

## **Report Forms**

There's always report due ☺ Here's what I need from you for the following grant programs. If you haven't returned these forms, I need them asap!

Great Plains Foundation grant recipients – Budget Form and Action Plan

Senate Bill 168 grant recipients – Budget Form and Action Plan

New HSTW Schools – Three Year Action Plans

## **Technical Assistance Site Visits**

Here's the schedule to date for Technical Assistance Site Visits (TAV). If you haven't yet visited with me about a date for the TAV or Technical Review Visit (TR), please call me this week.

Burke	April 2-4
Baltic	November 13-15
Bridgewater	February 5-7
Chester	November 6-7
LAMD/Watertown	December 6-8
Madison	October 31-November 1
Sanborn Central	November 27-29
Sturgis High	November 13-14
Timber Lake	November 13-15
Wessington Springs	October 17-19
Tea	December 12 – 14

Schools yet to be scheduled: Andes Central, Sturgis Middle, Tri-Valley, Tea Middle, and Watertown Middle.

## **New Initiatives**

South Dakota schools have an opportunity to choose from several new Initiatives this fall. I have provided links that will give you more information about each of these. Schools are not required to implement any of these—you can select those that best meet the needs of your school. Statewide professional development has been scheduled for most, so you will be receiving registration materials for those soon. We will feature these programs during our November 16 meeting.

**Senior Projects:** <http://doe.sd.gov/octe/seniorproject/index.asp>

**Teachers As Advisors:** <http://www.sdjobs.org/taa> The website is a temporary site that pilot schools have been accessing for lessons and powerpoint presentations.

### **USA Today Education Pilots:**

<http://www.usatoday.com/educate/home.htm?Loc=vanity> Twelve pilot schools are using USA Today newspapers in their classrooms. Here's the website that shows the types of activities that schools can do.

**Internships:** More information to come soon! We are in the process of preparing a statewide framework. Training sessions will begin after Christmas.

**Career Clusters:** <http://www.careerclusters.org>

**Writing to Win:** <http://writingtowin.com/>

## **Publications and Resources**

Online Newsletters of Best Practices from the 2006 HSTW Conference:

<http://www.sreb.org/programs/hstw/publications/2006Pubs/06SummerConferenceNewsletter.asp>

Technical Assistance Site Visit Materials:

<http://www.sreb.org/programs/hstw/TechAssist/TAindex.asp>

## **Ending Thoughts**

That's all for this month! Please let me know if there are others from your school who should be added to our newsletter mailing list so that we can keep everyone informed.